

4 Sept. 1984

To Leland Frank Marshall Green
supporting HR 5885.

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September 4, 1984

The Honorable Edward Boland
Chairman of the Select Committee of Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in support of H.R. 5805 now under consideration by your Committee.

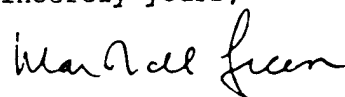
My comments are based on 40 years as an American Foreign Service Officer, including assignments as Minister to Korea, Consul General to Hong Kong, Ambassador to Indonesia and Australia, and Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific. At present, in retirement, I am a consultant to the State Department for population and refugee affairs.

Against this background, I can attest that State Department and CIA officers, together with their spouses, work hand-in-hand for our country, sharing inter-related responsibilities and rewards of service, enduring common hardships, often including distant separation from home and from children in school and college, and facing the same hazards of living in unhealthy posts and of being potential victims of terrorists as in Iran, Lebanon, and elsewhere.

The provisions of H.R. 5805, like those of a similar bill to provide essential benefits to certain former spouses of Foreign Service personnel, are long overdue. Clearly these spouses are entitled to the financial protection and relief which this bill equitably provides. Indeed, there is a danger that failure to pass this bill will cause more and more of our best qualified citizens to be reluctant to serve our country in CIA, quite apart from how failure to pass this bill will perpetuate an injustice.

I join with many of my colleagues in the Foreign Service and in CIA, active or retired, in urging approval of H.R. 5805 (or similar legislation) by your Committee.

Sincerely yours,



Marshall Green